Application No. 09/670,424 Amendment under 37 CFR 1.312 Customer No. 01933/

REMARKS

Claims 30, 33, 34, 37 and 40-42 have been amended to correct some typographical errors, to correct inconsistences with the previously pending claims, and to correct some inadvertent omissions and additions in the claims prepared by the Examiner in the Examiner's Amendment enclosed with the Notice of Allowance.

In addition, claim 33 has been amended to correct the position of the comma at line 11. Claim 41 has been amended to avoid reciting "the encryption unit" since claim 41 is a program claim and there is no antecedent basis for the encryption unit. And claim 42 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the key specification memory, to make a clerical correction at line 20, and to avoid reciting independent "units" such as the vector generation unit and logical operation unit, since claim 42 is a program claim.

It is also noted that claim 38, previously presented, was not included in the listing of claims in the Examiner's Amendment.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims are necessary to correct the claims as amended in the Examiner's Amendment so as to be properly understandable for proper protection of the present invention, and could not have been presented earlier (before the Examiner's Amendment).

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No new matter has been added, and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as amended hereinabove continue to recite the allowed subject matter, and it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be approved and entered under 37 CFR 1.312, in accordance with MPEP 714.16(d)(III).

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

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